

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DACCA 03042 040616Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 TRSE-00 SSC-01 /082 W
 -----040621Z 068546 /14

P R 040507Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY DACCA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4921
INFO AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L DACCA 3042

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, BG
SUBJ: ZIA PICKS A VICE PRESIDENT

REF: DACCA 2969 (NOTAL)

1. PRESIDENT ZIA HAS CHOSEN ADBUS SATTAR, 71, FORMER SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT, TO BE THE VICE PRESIDENT OF BANGLADESH. IN A BRIEF CEREMONY FRIDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 3, ZIA HIMSELF ADMINISTERED THE OATH OF OFFICE.

2. AS SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT, SATTAR HAD THE PORTFOLIO OF LAW AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS. HE HAS BEEN A RESPECTED JURIST AND ADMINISTRATOR FOR MANY YEARS AND WAS APPOINTED TO THE SUPREME COURT OF PAKISTAN IN 1968. (BIO DATA FOLLOWS BY AIRGRAM.)

3. COMMENT: SATTAR'S APPOINTMENT, WHICH WAS ANNOUNCED AFTER
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PAGE 02 DACCA 03042 040616Z

THE SWEARING IN CEREMONY, APPEARS AS A SYMBOLIC MOVE ON ZIA'S PART TO GIVE HIS GOVERNMENT THE APPEARANCE OF INSTITUTIONAL STABILITY, PARTICULARLY DURING ZIA'S ABSENCE AT THE LONDON COMMON-WEALTH CONFERENCE. THERE HAD BEEN SPECULATION FOR SOME WEEKS THAT ZIA WOULD FILL THE POSITION, BUT THE TALK HAD USUALLY MENTIONED A POLITICIAN IN THE ROLE (REFTEL). ZIA'S CHOICE OF SATTAR IS PROBABLY A GOOD ONE, CONSIDERING SATTAR'S BUREAU-

CRATIC EXPERIENCE AND RESPECTABILITY. BY NOT CHOSING A POLITICIAN,
ZIA HAS FOR THE TIME BEING RESISTED THE TEMPTATION TO GIVE HIS
GOVERNMEME A MORE POLITICIZED NATURE.
MASTERS

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 04-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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